

Amend the Land Use Element as follows:

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Historic Districts and Landmarks Preservation and Cultural Resources

Discussion

Historic preservation recognizes and protects aspects of our shared cultural heritage— buildings, districts, and designed landscapes that link to Seattle's past. From the Native Americans who first established trading centers along the Duwamish River to the latest waves of newcomers from around the world, all have left their mark. Over time, Seattle has acquired historic features that have become part of the city's civic identity. Through the preservation of icons and historic locations such as the Space Needle, the Olmsted network of parks and boulevards, and Pioneer Square, the city can continue to celebrate its heritage and maintain its unique sense of place.

Seattle values its past and recognizes and protects its heritage. One way we do this is by calling out more than 450 buildings, objects, and sites of exceptional significance, and eight historic districts. These visible connections to the past strengthen our sense of place and help build community. Finding new uses for existing structures also helps achieve the City's goals for sustainable development, because reusing historic buildings is more sustainable than demolishing and replacing them. Preserving and restoring historic buildings can encourage other revitalization in the neighborhood and attract new businesses.

The benefits of historic preservation are not merely aesthetic. Preservation is integral to our economic-development planning, and it also enhances our city's identity as a center for tourism, itself an important source of local jobs. Preserving historic buildings can help incubate small businesses, revitalize commercial districts, and generate local jobs. Historic preservation promotes sustainability through the reuse, repair, and upgrading of existing built resources.

GOAL

LU G14 Maintain the city's cultural identity and heritage.

POLICIES

LU 14.1 Maintain a comprehensive survey and inventory of Seattle's historic and cultural resources.

LU ~~14.1~~ 14.2 Support the designation of areas as historic and special review districts, and the designation of structures, sites, and objects as City of Seattle landmarks in order to protect, enhance, and perpetuate their historical or architectural identities.

(renumber policies accordingly)

LU ~~14.6~~14.7 Protect the scale and character of the established development pattern, while encouraging compatible and context-sensitive infill development.

LU ~~14.8~~ Expand outreach mechanisms to encourage historic preservation projects in neighborhoods and communities that have not traditionally benefited from historic preservation efforts, with particular focus on areas with high concentrations of under-served and/or under-represented people.

LU ~~14.7~~14.9 Identify historic resources that can be successfully used to meet the city's housing goals.

LU ~~14.8~~14.10 Identify, preserve, and protect archaeological resources.

GOAL

LU ~~GX~~15 Promote the economic opportunities and benefits of historic preservation.

POLICIES

LU ~~15.1~~ Recognize the economic value of Seattle's historic resources in attracting tourism; reinvest a share of the revenue derived from tourism to sustain and expand historic preservation.

LU ~~15.2~~ Encourage rehabilitation opportunities and reinvesting in vacant or underutilized historic properties to spark economic revitalization.

LU ~~15.3~~ Encourage rehabilitation of existing housing units and other building types that expands affordable housing choices that provide residents with choices and contribute to market-rate and workforce housing.

LU ~~15.4~~ Explore and provide options for financial and regulatory incentives to allow for the productive, reasonable, and adaptive reuse of historic resources.

GOAL

LU ~~G~~15 Promote the environmental benefits of preserving and adaptively reusing historic buildings

LU ~~16.1~~ Encourage rehabilitation and adaptive reuse of buildings to conserve resources, reduce waste, and demonstrate stewardship of the built environment

LU ~~16.2~~ Promote seismic and energy efficiency retrofits of historic buildings to reduce carbon emissions, save money, and improve public safety

LU ~~16.3~~ Encourage the creation of ecodistricts to achieve sustainability and resource efficiency at a district scale

(renumber following land goal and policies accordingly)

Amend the Arts and Culture Element as follows:

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Experiencing arts and culture should be fun and challenging. It should also be accessible so that it can be enjoyed regularly by all. There are so many ways to experience art. It can be created or observed or collaborated on. From tangible, physical objects, books, and digital works to experiences, gatherings, performances, and oral histories, the Seattle arts scene has many different points of entry. Cultural spaces are varied and can range from traditional theaters, galleries, and studios to schools, parks, libraries, and coffee shops.

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~~The benefits of historic preservation are not merely aesthetic. Preservation is integral to our economic development planning, and it also enhances our city’s identity as a center for tourism, itself an important source of local jobs. Preserving historic buildings can help incubate small businesses, revitalize commercial districts, and generate local jobs. Historic preservation promotes sustainability through the reuse, repair, and upgrading of existing built resources. Historic preservation policies are contained in the Land Use element of this Plan.~~

As noted in the Historic Preservation and Cultural Resources section contained in the Land Use element of this Plan, historic and cultural resource preservation recognizes and protects aspects of our shared cultural heritage— buildings, districts, and designed landscapes that link to Seattle’s past. Older buildings, sites and objects play a vital role in defining Seattle’s sense of place and the character of its neighborhoods.

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GOAL

AC G4 Support affordable cultural spaces in all neighborhoods, especially urban centers and villages where they are accessible to a broad range of people and where they can help activate the public realm.

AC 4.4X Encourage the adaptive reuse of historic community structures, such as meeting halls, schools, and religious buildings, for uses that continue their role as neighborhood anchors.
(number consistently with any additional amendments)